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UPFRONT

TRANSPORTATION: Getting around made easier



ALLAN BENNER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley helps launch the Pelham Transit pilot project.

Pelham Transit motoring with new bus

ALLAN BENNER
Postmedia Network

Jean Craig for the past few years has felt a little like she's trapped in a gilded cage.

"I haven't been out of here for over two years," said the 91-year-old resident at Look-out Ridge retirement home in Pelham.

"I'm not complaining, I have a lot of pluses that I didn't have," she said, referring to the seniors home on Regional Road 20.

"But I'd like to get out," Craig said, adding it'd be nice to go out for dinner once in a while.

Now, she said, she has her wings back.

A new wheelchair-accessible bus rolled up in front of the retirement home last Friday. She was among the first to greet it, eager for the freedom it offers herself and her friends at the seniors home.

Mayor David Augustyn was at the seniors home Friday, with Kathryn McGarry, Ontario's parliamentary assistant to the minister of trans-

portation, and St. Catharines MPP Jim Bradley to celebrate the launch of the Pelham Transit pilot project.

The new transit service was established with \$100,000 from the province's Community Transportation Pilot Grant Program — the maximum amount provided to establish a new transit service. Augustyn said it means a lot to the town and the residents who will benefit from it.

The grant covers more than half the cost of the pilot project, "and for a community such as ours, we wouldn't be able to do this," he said. Augustyn said the town will determine "if we can ultimately provide the service on a longer form, and link up with intermunicipal transit in the region, and hopefully... to GO rail."

McGarry called the event an "official tie kicking" for the transit system, and an opportunity to "take a first ride" in the new 2016 wheelchair accessible bus.

"I was absolutely delighted to see that the application that

the Town of Pelham put forward in order to be able to participate in the transit pilot project was accepted," she said. "I knew you'd be jumping up and down. I've got to say, I think there were tears when the bus finally came up."

Although Bradley said the town of about 16,000 residents is considered a low population area, "there are a number of people who always require public transportation."

He said the pilot project, with funding until the end of March 2017, will give the town an opportunity to determine if it will be viable, and meet the needs of residents.

In addition to linking Pelham's communities including Fonthill, Ridgeville and Fenwick, the transit service provided by Sharp Bus Lines Limited also makes stops in Welland at Niagara College and Saway Mall, where passengers can access Niagara Regional Transit services.

In addition to seniors, Bradley said it's also "very significant for students" travelling to

the college, and "people can get to Brock University as well, eventually."

Bradley was impressed with the accessibility features on the bus equipped with a wheelchair lift and room for two wheelchairs.

It replaces the bus first used when Pelham Transit picked up its first passengers last month.

The bus service is offered Monday to Saturday with morning, midday and evening routes.

Bus fares are \$3 each, or \$30 for 11 tickets, and children five years old and under ride for free. The town has also reached an agreement with Niagara College's student union to provide free rides for college students in exchange for a \$10,000 lump sum payment. Augustyn said a similar agreement is in the works for students at Brock.

A route schedule is available at www.pelham.ca/transit.

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SHORT HILLS: Plea directed to Niagara Region councillors

Deer hunt continues to raise concerns

MARYANNE FIRTH
Postmedia Network

With First Nations hunters expected to return to Short Hills Provincial Park in November, residents again raised concerns of safety risks they feel the deer hunt imposes.

A handful of presenters came before Niagara Region council last Thursday night asking that safety protocols for the event be reviewed and enforced.

The issue was last before council in July, when Liz White of Short Hills Wildlife Alliance made a presentation that included several recommendations to improve safety of the hunt.

Following the presentation, council at that time directed staff to compile a report, seeking input on her concerns from the Haudenosaunee Wildlife and Habitat Authority, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and Niagara Regional Police services board.

That report, which included information on the three hunts that have taken place at the park since January 2013, was included on Thursday night's agenda.

White again returned to the podium, this time asking that the ministry provide its 2015 safety protocol, that it be available upon request for the public and that it be "adhered to and enforced when not adhered to."

Safety concerns were raised by several presenters about members of the public entering the park while the hunt is ongoing, hunters breaching designated hunting zones and the number of hunters allowed within the park at one time.

Community members and the wildlife alliance have been working to alleviate some of the issues,

having met with both Ontario Provincial Police and MNR staff, White said.

"I think there was agreement there were very real issues. The question is how do they get dealt with?"

Resident Sheila Krekorian feels there has been an unfair perception that anyone against the aboriginal deer hunt is discriminating against the First Nations community.

"It has nothing to do with who is hunting. It has to do with the where," she said, adding the park is an "inappropriate area" for that activity.

Krekorian said the hunt should not be allowed to move forward while Camp Wetaskiwin, a Scouts Canada camp located in the middle of the Short Hills property, remains open.

"That camp is filled with children while hunting is going on. That's an egregious error in judgment by the MNR," she said.

We have two options, either shut down the camp while the hunt is going on or stop hunting. Having hunting happen while there are children in the camp is a method for something tragic to happen."

St. Catharines Coun. Bruce Timms asked that the presenters speak again in front of the area's MPPs, as the hunt takes place within a provincial park.

"This is a provincial responsibility," he said, adding he would like to see a meeting between those with safety concerns and the provincial representatives happen in the near future.

Regional council received the report for information and will circulate the document to Niagara's four members of provincial parliament.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ CIBC RUN FOR THE CURE



DON FRASER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Images of the annual Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation CIBC Run for the Cure. The Niagara run was held at Brock University Sunday, with about \$224,000 raised regionally for breast cancer research, health education and advocacy.

Picking up the pace against breast cancer

DON FRASER
Postmedia Network

Shelley Roussele's army of supporters were lacing up as a battalion against breast cancer, but she was about to join her team, the Pink Ribbons, using a wheelchair to help her walk at least part of Niagara's annual CIBC Run for the Cure at Brock University Sunday.

The 52-year-old was diagnosed with advanced-stage breast cancer 15 months ago.

"I've been up and down, and I was feeling really good until about a month ago," said the St. Catharines resident, who was accompanied by husband Darrin.

"The last time I've had to use this wheelchair was for this walk. I am determined to start this walk by just pushing it myself," she said in a vow that was carried through at the run's kickoff. "And I'm off to grab a survivor's shirt."

This is the Pink Ribbons' sixth year joining a national event dedicated to raising money for breast cancer research, health education and advocacy programs. That team was launched when Shelley's sister Lorrie, 50, developed breast cancer. Lorrie was also joining the troupe this time around.

This year, about \$224,000 was raised in the regional run by its 1,153 participants, including teams such as Pink Ribbon.

At the cancer survivor tent, Narges Dardanian was passing out shirts. Beside her lay a stack of *Starline* Cancer cookbooks, with recipes to promote a healthier lifestyle, free of sugar, red meat and dairy products.

A portion of its sales goes to cancer research.

Dardanian, 55, is also a cancer survivor, diagnosed in 2007, and who is in

remission.

"I want people to feel as good as I am," she said. "I don't think having cancer means you're going to die."

The theme at this year's comic-themed event was Wonder Woman, a nickname for Jackie Harper, who died last May at age 35 from cancer.

Harper, an avid dragon boat racer, was featured in a series in *The Standard* about women who had fought cancer, with Harper bravely displaying the results of her own double mastectomy in a published portrait.

Run director Ashley Williams described a "lot of inspiration and tough stories" at the run event.

"The community is really supportive, so that helps everybody here," she said. Jennifer Schembri, 49, of Niagara Falls, was among those sources of inspiration, and spoke during opening ceremonies inside Isaac's Bar and Grill.

Schembri, also a breast cancer survivor, spoke passionately about taking control following a diagnosis, and the importance of support in the battle against cancer.

"It's nice to be strong and independent, but my one piece of advice is do not try to take this journey alone reach out, use your support system," she said. "They're there for you and it is nothing to be ashamed of."

"You have to be proactive and keep asking questions. Trust your instincts and your own body, and be your own advocate."

"If something doesn't feel right... don't ignore it. Early detection is the key."

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■ RANKIN RUN: E.L. Crossley hosts annual Rankin Cancer Walk/Run

Business students present E.L. Crossley's cancer run

FRANKI IKEMAN
Postmedia Network

A group of Grade 12 business students have taken on organizing this year's E.L. Crossley Rankin Run.

The students last week were busy putting final touches on planning today's event and drumming up funds to reach an \$8,000 goal.

Karen Chcoski, teacher of the business group, said students have taken a lot of initiative and that she has been really impressed with what they've accomplished so far.

"I decided to make this into a class project because I wanted to give these students an opportunity as Grade-12s to take on a leadership role in the school and do something for the overall community."

She said students get the chance to put organizational, planning and leadership skills to use while doing something meaningful for the community at large.

Chcoski said the students' social media savvy is helping to get the rest of the student body more engaged and enthusiastic.

"For me," said student Ryan Johnson, "it's just, you know, having family and friends who have had cancer,



FRANKI IKEMAN/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

E.L. Crossley Grade 12 students Jordan Flegg, left, and Levi Rizzo sort out pledges forms that have come in for the Pelham High school's annual Rankin Cancer Run 2015.

it's just an honour to be a part of it and I really enjoyed it."

He said working with his class and being able to use skills they've learned in a practical application has been a positive experience.

"Everybody's been really work-

ing well together and putting a lot of effort into this and going well beyond what the project is itself, really showing some good team work and dedication."

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Twitter: @frankiikeman

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Will a chicane help calm traffic?

DAVE AUGUSTYN
 For Pelham News

Last Friday, town staff installed a temporary traffic calming measure on Haist Street North (north of Regional Road 20). Shortly after, I drove through and posted a photo on my Facebook pages and other social media. The reactions were immediate and polarized.

The town has been grappling with ways in which to help calm traffic and make it safer for pedestrians and cyclists for a number of years. More than a decade ago, the town implemented community safety zones on Haist Street (near A.K. Wigg School) and on Pelham Street (near Glynn A. Green School) to double the normal fine for speeders. We have added flashing lights in most school

zones and employ a team of dedicated crossing guards help local students to cross the road.

Over the past nine years, we've also dramatically improved our walking and cycling infrastructure. We've added more than 13 kilometres of sidewalks in areas such as Pelham Street (Puncake Lane to Broad Street), Haist Street (from Welland Road to north of Regional Road 20), Regional Road 20 (from Rice Road to Lookout Street), Maple Street (from Canhoro Road to Sandra Drive), Port Robinson Road (from Pelham Street to Rice Road), Church Street (from Martha Court to Centennial Park) and along Pelham Town Square. We've also added more than nine kilometres of new hike lanes — notably on Haist, Port Robinson, and Regional Road 20.

To make it safer for folks to cross the street, we've added five new crosswalks — at the Fonthill library branch, at A.K. Wigg, and on Pelham Street at Church Hill, at Puncake and at Spruceside Crescent. We also added a traffic light at Pelham Street and Port Robinson Road and improved the pedestrian crossings on Regional Road 20 at Pelham and Haist streets. We have also added stop signs to better regulate traffic — Quaker Road at Line Avenue, Port Robinson Road at Station Street, Canhoro Road at Balfour Street, and Sewmill Road at Wessel Drive.

To help slow traffic we've added speed humps to Haist Street, and narrowed the road width on Regional Road 20 (up the hill between Canhoro and Church Hill), and in downtown Fenwick. We've even painted center lines and edge lines on a few roads to

make them appear narrower so that drivers slow down.

Because of ongoing speeding and persistent resident complaints, staff recently set up a temporary traffic-calming measure — called a chicane or a hump — on Haist Street North. While they will be monitoring pre- and post-speeds, area residents e-mailed staff that the temporary installation made an instant improvement. Traffic is slowing.

Because of the diverse reactions on Facebook — some in favour, some confused, some vigorously opposed — I thought I would write about the pilot project here. Please provide your own reaction to town councillors or me directly.

You may contact Mayor Dave at mayordave@pelham.ca or read past columns at www.pelhammayordave.blogspot.com.

Shipwrecks — Thornhill

SKIP GILLHAM
 For Postmedia Network

The 70-year-old bulk carrier *Thornhill* ran aground in the St. Mary's River on Dec. 16, 1975.

This member of the Upper Lakes Shipping fleet received hull damage that led to the vessel being laid up. It was taken to Port Weller Dry Docks the following

June and the report was not good.

As a result of the costs involved, the vessel was retired and eventually sold for scrap.

Despite the unfortunate end to its career, this ship had provided excellent service under both American and Canadian ownership. It had been built at Ecorse, Mich., and entered service as *Ispheming*, for the Cleveland-Cliffs fleet, in August 1906.

It came to Canada for Upper Lakes Shipping late in 1965 and was renamed *Thornhill* for the 1966 season. The 168.25-metre-long steamship was used mainly in the grain trade but it did make history on Sept. 24, 1967, loading the first cargo of iron ore pellets from the Atkikoon plant of the Steep Rock Iron Mines. This was taken on at Port Arthur (now Thunder Bay) for delivery down the lakes.

Thornhill underwent special hull work

in 1968 and 1971 that extended its career and made it more suitable for the grain trade to places such as Collingwood and Goderich. Even in retirement, the ship was used as a grain storage barge at Toronto and survived until a sale for scrap in 1980.

Thornhill departed Hamilton under tow on Sept. 4, 1980, and, following a change of tugs at Quebec City, reached Mammoth, Colombia, on Oct. 30, 1980, and was broken up.

Nothing worse than cap-and-trade

Leave it to Tom Mulcair and the New Democrats, in advocating a national carbon pricing scheme, to pick the worst one. That's cap-and-trade, which the European experience has shown is ineffective at lowering greenhouse gas emissions linked to climate change and particularly vulnerable to political corruption and fraud.

Cap-and-trade requires the creation of a massive new government bureaucracy to conduct auctions of carbon credits, so you can see why the NDP like it.

It's even worse than a carbon tax.

The only reason politicians seem to prefer

cap-and-trade to a carbon tax — literally — is that they don't have to say the word "tax." The distinction is irrelevant. Cap-and-trade raises prices. A carbon tax raises taxes.

In both cases, the public pays more and the government takes in billions of dollars annually in new revenue.

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau, who, like Mulcair, has promised to work with the provinces to establish a national carbon pricing scheme, hasn't committed to cap-and-trade or any other form of national carbon pricing. He's been even more vague than Mulcair, which is alarming.

Ironically, if one heaves man-made cli-

mate change is the most pressing issue facing the planet, Elizabeth May and the Greens have the policy that makes the most sense. May, at least, promises that all the money raised through a carbon tax — basically higher sales taxes — would be returned to the public through income tax cuts, rather than going down the black hole of general government revenues.

Known as carbon fee and dividend, this is at least an understandable attempt to use tax policy to influence human behaviour — which governments do all the time — by encouraging people to make less carbon-intensive choices in their lives, while letting

them keep more of the money they earn.

To be clear, we don't support carbon pricing. We agree with Prime Minister Stephen Harper that carbon taxation (or, more correctly, carbon pricing) is really about raising government revenues, not about lowering GHG emissions.

That's what real-world experience — carbon taxes in Norway and cap-and-trade across Europe — indicates.

But if a government is going to implement carbon pricing, the Greens' policy is the only one that makes any sense at all.

— Postmedia Network



New way coming to report child's absence

Niagara Catholic District School Board will start a Safe Arrival System across all its schools by the end of 2015.

Last spring, it tested a new way of reporting student absences, through the

Synovise system, in two elementary schools and two high schools.

The telephone call system connects parents at home with messages from the school or board.

Through the Safe Arrival System parents can report planned absences and it ensures unreported absences due to illness are reported. Parents and guardians have the option of calling a number or logging onto a website to report their child's absence. The school will record it. An app will also be available to report absences.

Unreported absences will generate a phone call, text message or e-mail to parents to advise their child was not in class as scheduled. Schools will tell parents when the Safe Arrival System will start and provide a card with the website and phone information.

EDUCATION

Catholic trustee fears erosion of school traditions

WAYNE CAMPBELL

Special to Postmedia Network

A Welland Catholic school board trustee fears the loss of local school traditions.

"We should encourage a school to develop an individuality that reflects its neighbourhood," Ted O'Leary said last week during a progress report on Niagara Catholic District School Board's strategic plan, Vision 2020.

He was concerned an across-the-board standard will deprive schools of their local characters.

"We should find ways to enhance their individuality," he said during a regular board meeting. "We should have 50 individual schools with 50 individual stories."

In particular, O'Leary pointed to proposals to make high school graduation ceremonies similar at all eight secondary schools.

In Welland, we have graduation in the arena. You can't get more Welland than that," he said while pointing out sponsors are "given a moment in the sun" by handing out their awards.

Notre Dame, Lakeshore, Denis Morris and St. Paul are all distinctive, O'Leary said.

Board chair Rev. Paul MacNeill said he has been dealing with the same impression and has heard that things are getting too similar across schools.

"It is good to raise it here and keep it in the back of our minds."

St. Catharines trustee Kathy Buttnik said maybe it is something that is not happening but only seems like it.

Vice-chair Dino Sciol, trustee for Port Colborne, Port Erie and Wainfleet, said he noticed when a student receives a major scholarship his or her high school is mentioned but not earlier schools.

"If a Denis Morris student does well, why not mention their elementary school?"

Education director John Crocco said schools try to share great practices "to strengthen systems and strengthen schools."

However, he said, "they can't change the big T" traditions.

In his review of Vision 2020, Crocco at Tuesday night's meeting rolled through a more than 20-page report touching on progress in technology, special education, human resources, building Catholic identity, improving accessibility to resources, increasing student voices, producing balanced budgets and addressing changing demographics across Niagara.

Support workers work to rule

Support workers for Niagara Catholic District School Board are on a work-to-rule campaign as provincial negotiations continue with Canadian Union of Public Employees.

CUPE members include caretakers, secretaries, educational assistants, facilities services staff and other support workers.

The board does not expect this job action to be a disruption to student learning, programs and services, said education director John Crocco.

"Provincial negotiations continue with CUPE and we remain optimistic that a settlement will be reached."

Two new student trustees

Michaela Bodis from Lakeshore Catholic High School in Port

Colborne and Aidan Harold from Notre Dame College School in Welland joined Niagara Catholic District School Board this year as student trustees.

Including the students, the school board has 10 trustees. Eight are elected by Catholic school taxpayers from wards across Niagara.

Catholic parent group gets 3 new faces

Niagara Catholic District

School Board appointed three people to serve as community representatives on the Niagara Catholic Parent Involvement committee for 2015-16.

They are Shelley Gilbert of St. Vincent de Paul Society, Leone Strlie of St. Catharines Diocesan Council for Development and Peace, and Heather Pyle of Ontario Association of Parents in Catholic

Education (OAPCE).

Board passes on response to Real Women

Niagara Catholic District School Board Chair Rev. Paul MacNeill will hold back from a reply to a letter from Real Women of Canada.

The letter, sent to the board and board members, comments on the constitutional position of Catholic school boards in light of the new Ontario sex education curriculum.

MacNeill said Tuesday the letter did not ask for a reply.

The board has staff looking at the issue and is following direction from Catholic bishops, he said.

St. Catharines trustee Kathy Buttnik said it is best the board take care "so we don't add to the chaos surrounding the issue."

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Niagara West riding profiled

THE CANDIDATES

Postmedia asked candidates in the Niagara West riding why they are running in this election. Here they are in alphabetical order:

DEAN ALLISON

Conservative

Age 50

Occupation: Parliamentarian
Family: Married with five children

Lives: Beausville

Political experience: Member of Parliament since 2004

Chair, Standing Committee Foreign Affairs and International Development

Campaign contact: Main campaign office: Beausville Town Centre, 4961 King St., Beausville Telephone: Toll Free 1-877-938-3328, Website: www.deanallison.com, e-mail: team@deanallison.com, Twitter @DeanAllisonMP, Facebook DeanAllisonMP

Why are you seeking office?
Helping and serving others is what I have enjoyed doing all my life. Assisting people with their issues with the federal government, or guiding an individual in the right direction has been what I have been doing since I was first elected.

I have helped bring hundreds of millions of dollars in funding to our communities. I am proud of my record and excited that the dollars I have brought to Niagara West have assisted

with the funding of significant projects like the Fleming Centre in Beausville, road and sewer improvements and development of parks in Pelham and West Lincoln, the YMCA in Grimsby, and the refurbishment of the arena in Wainfleet, just to name a few.

Improving the economy is important, especially locally, and championing the needs of new businesses and industries and helping them create new jobs, has and always will be a top priority for me.

ALAN DEROO

Libertarian Party of Canada
Age 25

Occupation: Shop manager at Dog treat facility

Family: Single

Lives: Stoney Creek

Political experience: Ran in 2014 provincial election for the Libertarian Party of Ontario, Took political science in University.

Campaign contact: voteallanderoo@gmail.com, Facebook.com/voteallanderoo

Why are you seeking office?
The reason I am running is to give the residents of Niagara West the gift of being able

to vote for a party that truly believes in individual freedoms and rights, and a limited and fiscally responsible government. I do not expect to be elected this current election, but I hope to give those who spoiled their ballot or refused to vote in past elections someone who is worth voting for and aligns with some or all of their views.

I hope to raise awareness for the party and our policies and principles during this election. If elected I actually promise to follow the principles of the Libertarian party along with the wishes and desires of the resident of this riding so long as they do not restrict other citizens' rights and freedoms. Thank you and I hope everyone makes it out to vote for the party that represents them

SID FREER

Green Party

Age 75

Occupation: Retired principal/teacher

Family: Wife Chris, son-Mark, daughter-Eileen

Lives: Silverdale, St. Ans

Political experience: Ran three times federally, one time provincially, three years on executive of the EDA

Campaign contacts: green-toc@25.ca, 905-957-3597

Why are you seeking office?
Since meeting Elizabeth May, Green Party MP, I have been inspired by her enthusiasm, energy, common sense long term vision and her grassroots approach to politics.

I feel it is important to make Niagara West constituents aware of the Green Party policies and the "Green Vision" that I am running for a third time. I know that the chance to make real changes for our country is to get the message out and encourage every eligible voter to cast their ballot on Oct. 19. Please download or read online "Building a Canada that Works. Together 2015" at www.green-party.ca. I encourage you to read this short (42 pages), exciting, thought changing document for you and the future of all our children and Canada.

HAROLD JONKER

Christian Heritage Party

Age 42

Occupation: Operations manager of Jonker Trucking Inc.
Family: Wife of 18 years is Janice, 11 children with one expected in February

Lives: St. Ans

Political experience: Ran in 2011 federal election in Niagara Falls, board of directors of Guido de Bree High School 2010 – present

Campaign contact: e-mail harold.jonker@chcp.ca, website www.chcp.ca

Why are you seeking office?
The reason I am running is because of our children, the future of our country. The Christian Heritage Party is the only federal party that still believes in the first statement in the constitution: "Whereas Canada is founded upon the principles

that recognize the supremacy of God" The CHP is the only party that has the courage to look at all the information that is available and say no to abortion and same sex marriage.

The CHP has policies in place to get our budget balanced, to pay off our debt like a mortgage to pay off. The CHP will stop the so many programs that don't promote growth and health in our society and economy.

Canada's Christian Heritage which has made this country strong and free is slowly being eroded by self interest groups and we need strong true leadership to lead this country. Canada needs the CHP.

NAMEER RAHMAN

New Democratic Party

Age 37

Occupation: Policy specialist

Family: Wife and infant son

Lives: Grimsby

Political experience: BA and MA in political science (economic development and trade focus). Close to two years with the Alberta NDP Legislative Caucus as a policy adviser. Served two years as an adviser with the Ontario public service (Ministry of Energy).

Campaign contact: campaign office address: 3305 19th Street, Jordan, L0R 1S0, e-mail: nameer.rahman@ndp.ca, Website: www.nameerrahman.ndp.ca Facebook: fb.com/renameerrahman

Why are you seeking office?
I am seeking office because

Niagara needs new representation that will better serve its economy, support families and protect our seniors.

Niagara has been ignored by the Harper government for 10 years. We have lost tens of thousands of manufacturing and agricultural jobs, working families have to do more with less and many seniors are living in poverty, with no plan to turn things around.

The NDP has prioritized the manufacturing and agricultural sectors. Concrete measures like innovation tax credits, reducing small business tax from 11% to 9% and defending the dairy industry's supply management will help turn Niagara's economy around. \$15-a-day child care will make it easier for families to work and keep more in their wallets. NDP proposals to protect retired pensions and boost GIS payments will help to ensure our seniors' independence.

Voting for change with the NDP will make Niagara a priority again.

PHIL ROSE

Liberal Party of Canada

Age 46

Occupation: Professor and musician

Family: Married to Dr. Anisley Moore MD. Member of National Task Force for Preventive Health
Lives: Glanbrook

Continued on page 8

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|-----------------------|-----------------|
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| Tuesday, October 13 | 7:00 – 8:00 pm |
| Wednesday, October 14 | 7:30 – 8:30 pm |
| Thursday, October 15 | 10:00-11:00 am |

Arena Programs

| Public Skating | Adult Public Skating | Adult/Preschool | Men's Shiny Hockey | Women's Shiny Hockey | Women's Learn to Play Hockey | Pelham Panthers-Home Games |
|--|---|---|--|---|--|--|
| Sunday Oct 11 1:00-2:20 pm Tuesday Oct 13 7:30-8:30 pm Friday Oct 9 3:30-4:30 pm | Thursday, Oct 15 1:00-2:00 pm | Tuesday, Oct 13 1:00-2:00 pm Friday, Oct 16 10:00-11:00 am | Tuesday, Oct 13 8:00-9:00 am Friday, Oct 16 9:00-10:00 am | Monday Oct 12 9:30-10:45 am Thursday Oct 15 10:30-11:45 am | Thursday, Oct 15 9:30-10:30 am Hockey Skills Hour Thursday, Oct 15 2:00-3:00 pm | Friday, Oct 16 7:30 pm vs. Welland Friday, Oct 23 7:30 pm vs. Fort Erie |

Pelham Transit Schedule

Effective September 25, 2015 Monday - Saturday Service

Starting October 5, 2015, regular fare fees will be in place (\$3.00 exact cash fare, per way).
Transit passes are available at Town Hall (11 passes for \$30).

| Morning | Evening | Stop Location |
|---|---------|--|
| 6:45 AM | 6:28 PM | Canboro Rd. / Maple St |
| 6:50 AM | 6:31 PM | Canboro Rd. / Effingham Rd. |
| 6:53 AM | 6:34 PM | Haist St. / Hwy 20 |
| 6:59 AM | 6:37 PM | Pelham Public Library (43 Pelham Town Square) |
| 7:10 AM | 6:50 PM | Seaway Mall |
| <p>*Those travelling to St. Catharines can transfer to Niagara Region Transit at 7:18 am *Visit www.niagararegion.ca/transit, www.yourbus.com & www.welland.ca/transit for more details. Additional fare fees apply.</p> | | |
| 7:14 AM | 7:00 PM | Niagara College-Welland Campus |
| <p>Morning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brook U students can transfer to Brook Link at 7:27 am NC students to NOTL campus can transfer to NOTL Link at 7:50 am <p>Evening:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brook U students can transfer from Brook Link arriving at NC Welland Campus at 5:25 pm or 6:25 pm NC students from NOTL campus can transfer to NOTL Link at 5:56 pm or 6:59 pm | | |
| 7:26 AM | 7:12 PM | Pelham Public Library (43 Pelham Town Square Fonthill) |
| 7:29 AM | 7:15 PM | Haist St. / Hwy 20 |
| 7:31 AM | 7:17 PM | Canboro Rd. / Effingham Rd. |
| 7:36 AM | 7:22 PM | Canboro Rd. / Maple St |

Pelham Specialized Transit Applications are available at pelham.ca/transit

Pilot Project funded by the Town of Pelham and the Ministry of Transportation Community Transportation Pilot



| Midday Trip 1 | Midday Trip 2 | Stop Location |
|---|---------------|--|
| 11:01 AM | 12:30 PM | Balfour St./Beech Dr. |
| 11:01 AM | 12:31 PM | Balfour St./Canboro Rd. |
| 11:02 AM | 12:33 PM | Canboro Rd. / Maple St. |
| 11:08 AM | 12:39 PM | Old Pelham Town Hall (491 Canboro Rd. Farnwick) |
| 11:11 AM | 12:42 PM | Canboro Rd. / Effingham Rd. |
| 11:15 AM | 12:46 PM | Lookout Street (in front of Lookout Ridge) |
| 11:17 AM | 12:49 PM | Haist St. / Hwy 20 |
| 11:20 AM | 12:51 PM | Haist St./Pancake Lane |
| 11:22 AM | 12:53 PM | Pelham Arena (1120 Haist St. Fonthill) |
| 11:23 AM | 12:54 PM | Welland Rd./Quaker Rd. |
| 11:26 AM | 12:57 PM | Pelham St. / Bacon Ln. |
| 11:29 AM | 12:58 PM | Pelham St./College St. |
| 11:30 AM | 12:59 PM | Pelham Public Library (43 Pelham Town Square Fonthill) |
| 11:34 AM | 1:00 PM | Hwy 20 Sobergy Plaza |
| 11:35 AM | 1:06 PM | Hwy 20 Rice Rd. |
| 11:46 AM | 1:17 PM | Seaway Mall |
| <p>Trip 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those travelling to St. Catharines can transfer to Niagara Region Transit at 12:18 pm <p>Trip 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Those travelling to St. Catharines can transfer to Niagara Region Transit at 1:18 pm <p>*Visit www.niagararegion.ca/transit, www.yourbus.com & www.welland.ca/transit for more details. Additional fare fees apply.</p> | | |
| 11:50 AM | 1:20 PM | Niagara College-Welland Campus |
| <p>Trip 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brook U students can transfer to Brook Link at 12:27 pm NC students to NOTL campus can transfer to NOTL Link at 12:03 pm <p>Trip 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brook U students can transfer from Brook Link at 1:27 pm NC students to NOTL campus can transfer to NOTL Link at 2:00 pm | | |
| 11:50 PM | 1:29 PM | Hwy 20 Rice Rd. (Pelham Cares) |
| 11:59 PM | 1:39 PM | Hwy 20 (across from Sobergy's Plaza) |
| 12:02 PM | 1:32 PM | Pelham Public Library (43 Pelham Town Square) |
| 12:03 PM | 1:33 PM | Pelham St./College St. |
| 12:05 PM | 1:35 PM | Pelham St./Sprucedale Cr. |
| 12:08 PM | 1:39 PM | Welland Rd./Woodside Sq. |
| 12:09 PM | 1:39 PM | Pelham Arena (1120 Haist St. Fonthill) |
| 12:11 PM | 1:41 PM | Haist St./Pancake Ln. |
| 12:13 PM | 1:43 PM | Haist St. / Hwy 20 |
| 12:15 PM | 1:45 PM | Hwy 20 Lookout St. (by Lookout Ridge) |
| 12:17 PM | 1:47 PM | Canboro Rd. / Effingham Rd. |
| 12:23 PM | 1:52 PM | Old Pelham Town Hall (491 Canboro Rd. Farnwick) |
| 12:26 PM | 1:55 PM | Canboro Rd. / Balfour St. |
| 12:27 PM | 1:56 PM | Canboro Rd. / Maple St. |
| 12:30 PM | 1:57 PM | Steele Dr./Balfour St. |

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■ ELECTION

Farming, trade focus of Niagara West debate

DON FRASER
Postmedia Network

Agriculture, domestic wine access, an Asian trade deal and census collection dominated a federal election debate for Niagara West candidates last Wednesday.

Conservative incumbent Dean Allison, Liberal candidate Phil Rose and New Democratic Party candidate Nameer Rahman took part in the online matchup hosted by Postmedia's three Niagara daily papers.

The most heated moment focused on the Conservative's elimination of Statistics Canada's long-form census.

And that segued to the accuracy of information about whether Canada is in a recession.

Allison said he disagreed with "so-called experts" who've derided information lost by the long-form census cancellation. The Conservative candidate said it is more than 40 pages in length and asks intrusive personal questions. He also disagreed with the threat of fine and jail time in a mandatory census and said some people weren't filling it out completely.

Current technology means "we are absolutely able to (still) get that information," he said.

Rose also asked Allison about "the ways ... you'd like to get that data ... it just seems that it's just (about) the strain of anti-intellectualism that's inherent in your party, much of which takes place for electoral convenience."

Allison responded the plan was to use the "short-form census and market research data."

That eventually led to some sniping between Rahman and Allison. Rahman said any assertion that "experts and opinions are the same thing" is absurd.

"Experts study the issues take a look at the data, and build up scientific consensus — and opinion can be unfounded."

He said the notion privacy is an issue is also absurd in that people give up data

through such things as tax forms and health records.

"The (information) tools that we need to build Canada are being restricted," Rahman charged.

Allison countered that it is "not about dismissing experts."

"It's realizing there is more than one way to get that data and information."

That led to a dispute about experts assessing whether Canada was in a recession.

"Every single economist out there talks about a recession being a technical retraction for two quarters back-to-back," Rahman said. "Even the Bank of Canada called it a recession."

"And then you say ... it's not a recession it's a stagnation," he said.

"Absolutely" Allison countered, citing recently most-recently reported monthly Statistics Canada GDP growths this summer of 0.3 per cent and 0.4 per cent.

Much of the rest of the debate, moderated by reporter Grant LaFleche, was dominated by agriculture, wine industry access and the effects of a new Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). Now being bargained secretly, an agreement would reduce trade and tariff barriers between 12 Pacific countries, including Canada.

Niagara West, which includes Pelham and Wainfleet, is a riding dominated by wineries, agriculture and horticulture businesses.

Allison spoke to the TPP and its potential effects on the grape and wine industry. For starters, he said a 2006 federal elimination of VQA wines excise tax "has had a tremendous effect on the wine industry."

"In Canada, we have actually doubled the number of wineries we have," in an initiative, with other related ones, that he says has saved the industry many millions. Allison later asked a failure "to own" domestic wine markets has been a failure of the provinces.

Continued on next page

Niagara West riding profiled

From page 5

Political experience: literacy advocate and activist candidate in 2000 and 2004

Campaign contacts: Office 15 Main St. E., Grimsby, L3M1M7; phone number 1-844-234-7641; Website www.PhilRose.ca, e-mail Phil@philrose.ca, Twitter [@PhilRoseNWLC](https://twitter.com/PhilRoseNWLC), Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/PhilRoseResChangeNWLC>

Why are you seeking office?

Born and raised in Grimsby, I'm seeking to represent Niagara West because of my profound connection to the riding. Like most Canadians I'm exceedingly disturbed by what's transpired domestically and internationally under a decade of Conservative mismanagement, and I've had enough with

Stephen Harper's continued insulting of our collective intelligence.

Accordingly, I feel a strong sense of civic responsibility to correct our situation, and the Liberal Party is alone in being poised to do so.

Promoting an economic growth plan that works for all Canadians by buttressing the economic power of the middle class and those who wish to join it, I'm proud that we'll take the higher ground, and restore respect and integrity to our institutions, our public discourse, and the office of citizenship, and this I will begin to do by holding regular town hall meetings and focus groups on the issues that matter most to Niagara West.

■ ELECTION

Farming, trade focus of Niagara West debate

From previous page

It's vital to create access for agricultural markets, he added. "If you look at any trade deals we've done before, it has always created more access."

"We will defend our own interests and we will always do that," Allison said, adding his government has defended domestic agricultural supply management policies.

"There are going to be a whole bunch of tariffs knocked down in other countries where we'll have the ability to compete in a better way [with TPP]," Allison said later.

Rose said transparency in TPP negotiations would have been "appreciated most of all" by the industry. "They have no clue like the rest of us about what's in those agreements."

He said the Liberals would also help agriculture through a business risk management initiative to help the industry through crises like disease and devastating weather events.

As for any agreement "I have talked to the wine growers... and wine industry here," said Rahman. "They are very concerned about the impact that (the TPP) competition will bring in."

"If you've got a one-way flow of cheaper wines coming in, you've got larger issues," he said, adding his party would also like to see openness and transparency regarding the TPP.

Rahman also spoke of post TPP concerns that "there's been no indication by the Harper government that it's



going to be externally (trade) oriented."

"Nationally-oriented marketing strategies" is something the federal government has "fallen flat on," he said.

Meanwhile, the federal Liberals are known for successful international trade missions, said Rose. "This is something I can see continuing... this is what works for our producers and is what will work for the wine industry."

All three agreed international wine promotion was something their parties would be interested in.

They also discussed various issues affecting the agriculture industry and horticultural research in the area.

Among other initiatives, Allison pointed to his government's massive financial support of Vineland Research and Innovation Centre and its collaborative and beneficial effects to area growers.

"It's not the only tool, but

it is one of the tools," he said, adding the government is helping to fund other innovative agriculture projects in the area.

Rahman said research there, from a federal funding perspective, was being misdirected to commercialization for companies and not enough to vital "base research."

He also spoke of the need to encourage "value-added

infrastructure" in agriculture.

Rose said researchers were not being hired or retired researchers replaced and the much of the money is reallocated funding.

"I think the type of research that will often lead to innovation is no longer being done there," Rose said, adding that's an issue the Liberal government would deal with.

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HOSPITAL: South Niagara mayors hope to sway province

Former Welland hospital CEO says it's not needed

Welland site.

"We want to get down and dirty and talk to these people to see if we can sway them," Campion said.

Maloney said it would be ideal if ministry representatives would visit south Niagara, to see first-hand the existing facilities as well as the distances and geographic obstacles to accessing hospitals in St. Catharines or at the proposed hospital site in Niagara Falls.

"If they actually saw what was here in Welland, they may take a different tact," he said.

But Wright said it would be more difficult to attract resources such as medical specialists to a three-hospital system, than it would be to attract those resources to the two large hospitals proposed for the region.

"My own view is that Niagara needs two acute care hospitals, not three for the future," he said.

While Jeffs argued that Welland emergency department is still a functional facility, Wright said it's quickly becoming outdated.

Jeffs complained that the existing hospital is often described as "this old decrepit building" by people who are not familiar with the facility.

"But that emergency is only 15 years old I think," she said.

Continued on page 14

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LOCAL NEWS

■ **ACCIDENT:** Niagara Falls native went missing on 1980 ski trip

Finding body brings closure

TONY RICCIUTO
Postmedia Network

The body of a man who grew up in Niagara Falls and disappeared in 1980 while skiing in the Italian and Swiss Alps has been found 35 years later.

Early September, Italian police found the body of Gregory Barnes in a crevice, along with his passport that confirmed his identity. His sister, Sonja Barnes, who lives in Toronto told the CBC this week that she was contacted by Italian police and told that a hotter-than-normal summer caused glacial melt that uncovered her brother's remains.

Gregory Barnes, who was an avid outdoorsman, worked in Germany for a Canadian word-processing company. He went on a skiing trip to northern Italy with a group of other outdoor enthusiasts. While climbing with a group to the Bernina peak, he returned to his hut to fix his ski bindings.

Later, he tried to rejoin his group, but it's believed he veered off and fell into a crevice.

Sonja Barnes, who is a lawyer in Toronto, told Postmedia the family plan to repatriate his body and will hire an Italian lawyer to handle the paperwork. The family want his remains cremated.

Their mother died when they were children. Their



This is a year book picture of Gregory Barnes, formerly of Niagara Falls. Barnes went missing in 1980 during a skiing trip in the Italian Alps. His body was located by Italian police in September 2015.

father, Philip, was an accountant and his office was located near Leonard's Pharmacy near Victoria Avenue and McRae Street. The father, who never got over his son's death,

Gregory will be buried in a plot next to his mother in Ullswater, Ont., where there is already a gravestone for him.

BARNES
GREGORY
BORN 1955
MAY 1955
DAUGHTER OF CLARA BARNES
SONJA
BORN 1952
DAUGHTER OF CLARA BARNES

SUPPLIED PHOTOS / SPECIAL TO POSTMEDIA NETWORK
Gregory Barnes' gravestone in Ullswater, Ont. His remains will be returned to Canada so he can be buried in the plot, beside his mother. Barnes went missing in 1980 during a skiing trip in the Italian Alps

absolute shock," said Sonja after receiving the phone from the authorities in Italy. "It's not something that I ever expected to happen during my lifetime."

Sonja said her brother was "an incredible human being" and before moving to work in Germany he had already learned to speak German, Polish and French.

"He was just brilliant, but he was also a nice guy and also a good looking fellow and he would try everything," said Sonja. "My uncle said that Gregory could speak to the Queen of England and be just as comfortable speaking to a beggar on the street."

Kim Snyder, who lived next door to Gregory and Sonja on Valley Way, said they attended Valley Way School, then Maple Street School and then Niagara Falls Collegiate Vocational Institute.

"We played together daily and both of the kids were extremely bright, well-man-

nered and really kind," said Snyder, who has kept in touch with Sonja.

"Gregory was a little older than I was, he was my sister's age, but we all played together for years," said Snyder. "I remember all the girls had crushes on him. He was a very nice young fellow, he was funny and very smart."

Snyder, who moved from Niagara Falls, but returned about five years ago, said she remembered her mother talking about Gregory's disappearance after he had gone skiing in the Alps.

"I knew Sonja flew over there and she was there for a while looking for him, but they never found him," said Snyder. "I don't think they knew for sure what happened to him. I think he got separated from his group. He was just such a nice guy and you just don't expect something like that to hap-

Snyder said she was

"amazed" to learn Gregory Barnes had been found and now the family can finally get some closure.

"This just brought back so many memories for all of us," said Snyder, who has many old photos of Gregory when he was younger and she plans to send them to her friend Sonia.

Joseph Grcevic, who attended NFCVI with Barnes, said he was "stunned" after hearing the news that his friend's body had been found after so many years.

"He was super smart. We would write an exam and he would be finished in 20 minutes. The rest of us would just look over at him and shake our heads," said Greivic. "He was one in a million. He wrote one exam, I believe it was the Sir Isaac Newton physics exam or one of those, and he came first in North America."

**RE-ELECT**

Dean Allison

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HOSPITAL

South Niagara mayors hope to sway province

From page 10

From a layman's perspective, she said the Welland emergency department "doesn't look a whole lot different than the new one."

Wright said by the time a new hospital is built in Niagara, at least a decade down the road, Welland's existing hospital will not be sufficient.

"That building is behind the times now. It still can pro-

vide good care, but it's with a struggle," he said. "There are elements of it that just aren't what you want for the future."

Wright said he has seen dramatic changes to health-care delivery in his 37 years working in the industry, such as a growing emphasis on community-based care.

In years to come, he said, 95 per cent of medical services will be offered in the

community, rather than hospitals, "and those community resources are going to be every bit as important as hospital resources."

"Focus on the future," Wright urged. "Focus on what the health-care system is going to look like."

In an e-mail, NHS spokesman Brady Wood reaffirmed the health system's commitment to continuing "to work

in good faith to implement the supervisor's report," referring to the report by NHS chief executive officer Kevin Smith that recommended the construction of a single new hospital to replace facilities in south Niagara.

Wood said NHS president Suzanne Johnson "has also continued her outreach to elected officials and we are committed to those relationships."

Away or busy on October 19?

You can vote in advance.



If you're ready to vote early, you can vote at your advance polling place between October 9 and 12, from noon to 8:00 p.m.

Or you can vote at any Elections Canada office across the country any day until **October 13** at 6:00 p.m.

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October 19, 2015



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LOCAL NEWS

■ MAKING ENDS MEET

Minimum wage hike said to be too low

FRANKI KEMAN
Postmedia Network

Ontario was one of five provinces to raise its minimum wage last Thursday — a 25-cent hourly increase that brings the minimum to \$11.45.

It's an increase, but a negligible one according to many people.

"It's a step in the right direction, but it's not nearly enough," said LouAnn Binning, president of the Niagara Regional Labour Council.

Binning said that for people trying to make ends meet on minimum wage, the extra \$10 a week — assuming they are working 40 hour weeks, which many of them are not — might be the difference that puts food on the table.

"Ten dollars is going to buy milk, it's going to buy bread," Binning said.

She said that most jobs in Niagara are part-time at 20 hours a week, and that many of the workers the council represents are working two jobs, some even three jobs, to try to make ends meet.

The working poor, individuals who are working but just not making enough money, are needing to turn to food banks and social services to scrape by month-to-month, Binning said.

"We notice that in the area, the food banks are just crying for help because more and more people are having to go there."

The council — and others across the country — say a \$15 minimum wage is what is needed.

"It needs to be at least \$15 an hour and it needs to happen now," Binning said.

Brock University economics professor Felice Martinello said last Thursday's wage increase is "tiny" and isn't going to make a big difference one way or another.

More than anything, the 25-cent wage increase is a matter of housekeeping, Martinello said.

"If you don't increase it regularly, then your minimum wage is effectively

falling in real terms," Martinello said, saying if there is going to be a minimum wage it needs to rise as the cost of living inflates.

But increasing the minimum wage is not going to solve issues of poverty anyway, Martinello said.

"It (increasing minimum wage) really distracts you from the problem. It's really not going to help," he said.

"The real cures, the real fixes are much harder to do."

Martinello said many people who are living in poverty don't have jobs at all, and many people who work jobs which pay well above minimum wage are still living in poverty. He said a majority of people who are working minimum-wage jobs are teenagers who are living with their families and are not poor. He said changing the minimum wage for everybody doesn't help the people who need help the most.

"It bothers me, it's a simplistic blunt instrument that really isn't very effective," Martinello said.

And even with last Thursday's rise, Martinello said he doesn't see how people trying to live on minimum wage could make ends meet.

"I don't think you can. If you have no other sources of income and you're working at the minimum wage, and even if we were going to raise it again another dollar, they're still going to be poor," he said.

He said not even a \$15 minimum wage will be effective in solving poverty, saying that not only will a higher minimum wage lead to shift decreases over time, but may see an increase in high school dropouts who choose to work at \$15 an hour rather than finishing their education — which may help them in the short term but will land them back in poverty down the road.

He said he absolutely appreciates why people are fighting for \$15 minimum wage and applauds their efforts, but doesn't think it would be effective.

"I absolutely applaud their efforts for that, I just say the minimum wage is not the tool you want to use to do that (alleviate poverty)," he said.

Martinello said an increase in programs such as for earned income tax credits would be a more effective way to tackle issues of poverty.

"There's a lot of poor people who aren't covered by the minimum wage," Martinello said. "There's this mismatch, so trying to improve the minimum wage when it's not really targeting the poor is not a great idea."

Third-year Brock student Erin Laughlin works two jobs trying to make ends meet while in university.

The 20-year-old who commutes from Beamsville works one job that pays more than minimum wage but only has four hours per week for her to work. Her second job is working at McDonalds for minimum wage.

She said she's fortunate that her parents are able to assist her with her tuition, but that there are still many expenses a young student has to incur, such as her monthly car and insurance payments, gas and food — and that 25 cents more an hour isn't going to make a big difference.

"Yes, it's increasing but also so is the price of everything," Laughlin said.

She said increases such as this always feel more like a "tease"

than anything that will help her in the long run.

Saskatchewan, Newfoundland and Labrador, Manitoba and Alberta also raised their minimum wages Tuesday.

The new rise in minimum wages puts Ontario in second place for highest in the country, beat only by the Northwest Territories which has a minimum wage of \$12.50 as of June this year.

Also last Thursday, the hourly minimum wage for servers climbed to \$9.80 and for students under age 18 rose to \$10.55.

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■ LITERATURE: Hundreds visit CFUW book sale

'They're all treasures'

ALLAN BENNER
Postmedia Network

There were plenty of treasures — and plenty of book lovers to hunt for them — when members of the Canadian Federation of University Women Welland and District Chapter held their annual book sale Saturday.

"They're all treasures," said volunteer Sharon Vedova, gesturing to the book-covered tables within the Niagara Regional Exhibition building.

But several of the 50 or so volunteers who ran the event this year found a few gems among the thousands of books donated by people from throughout the

community.

One of those gems was a book of paintings of horse races, called *Fred Stone Paints the Sport of Kings*, that was autographed by the artist and potentially worth hundreds of dollars.

Volunteer Carol Kant said the book, in mint condition, came with a certificate of registration.

"I went online and we're not quite sure how much it's worth," Kant said.

"Look at how beautiful they are," she said, while flipping through the colourful pictures.

While most of the books were \$1 each, the chapter was asking for offers on that book.

"I've got 10 bucks," offered a would-be buyer.

She laughed.

"I don't know about \$10," she said.

Maxine Gaylor said a lot of the most collectible books were sold within the first hour after the sale opened at 9 a.m.

"But we do have a few good ones left," she added, pointing out a first edition of *Thorn-Apple Tree* by Grace Campbell and several other books.

Gaylor said an older woman stopped by her table and found an old school

textbook from 1917 she remembered from her childhood.

"She thought that was a special treasure," Gaylor said.

Many of the hundreds of shoppers who lined up at the door for the event found special treasures of their own.

Welland resident Jocelyne Blais found an armful of books to read, to add to her collection.

"I probably have 75 books at home that I need to read before I get to these," she said with a laugh.

"I'm addicted to reading."

Funds raised during the annual event are used to provide university scholarships of \$600 each to graduating students from eight area high schools.

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ALLAN BENNER/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Canadian Federation of University Women Welland and District Chapter volunteer Anita Howe looks through a treasure found while sorting through books donated for the organization's annual book sale Saturday in Welland.

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■ HEALTH



GRANT LAFLECHE/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

Dr. Rhonda Collins, who leads the Hotel Dieu Shaver rehab centre's new memory clinic, and Dr. Jack Luce, the centre's chief of staff.

Memory clinic opening at Hotel Dieu Shaver

GRANT LAFLECHE
Postmedia Network

Dealing with dementia is a frightening prospect for anyone.

The inexorable loss of mental faculties and the toll it can take on a family are hard enough. When a condition such as Alzheimer's disease is not detected early enough, it can make life all the more difficult for someone.

While dementia cannot be cured in most cases, early detection can result in better treatment and quality of life for a patient and their families. But catching it early is often difficult for family doctors.

A new clinic at the Hotel Dieu Shaver rehabilitation centre is hoping to change that for Niagara residents when it opens on Nov. 9.

The memory clinic will be accessible to people across the region, giving increased access to services for patients and their care givers.

Following a model established in Kitchener, memory clinics are staffed by physicians and nurses with specialized training in diagnosing and treating dementia. Patients are put through a battery of cognitive and functional tests to determine if they have dementia. If they are, the patients are put on a treatment plan, or referred to a specialist.

Dr. Rhonda Collins, who heads up the Hotel Dieu clinic, said memory clinics are common enough in Ontario but are typically only found in family health teams

— such as the Garden City Family Health Team where she works — and are only accessible to patients of those teams.

The Hotel Dieu Shaver clinic will be open to any patient referred to it by a family doctor, she said.

Collins said if family doctors do not have specialized training to know what to look for, the early signs of dementia can be overlooked.

"Often times patients with dementia are very good at hiding it," said Collins. "This is often because it involves short-term memory loss. They can appear completely normal and tell you everything that happened to them as a child, but can't remember what they had for breakfast."

Collins said dementia is on the rise due to Canada's aging population — particularly in communities such as Niagara that have an older demographic — so more emphasis on geriatric medical services, even at the family doctor level, is going to be necessary.

When the outpatient clinic opens on Nov. 9, its first patients will be those already being treated at Hotel Dieu Shaver.

However, the rehab centre has already posted its referral form on its website for family doctors in the region to use. It can be found at www.hoteldieushaver.org/site/referrals-admissions-guidelines.

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ARTS

Oxford photo a winner for Niagara artist

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Network

St. Catharines artist Daniel Bruno used a bit of light and luck to win a prestigious British museum's first-ever photography competition.

The contest, offered by the University of Oxford's Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology, asked photographers to submit work with the theme 'My Oxford,' inspired by the museum's fundraising campaign to secure JMW Turner's major painting *The High Street, Oxford* (1810). It's currently on display in the museum's Welcome Gallery.

More than 1,200 photos were submitted via Twitter, Instagram, Flickr or e-mail, and judges were struck by Bruno's pic of sunlight striking a portion of High Street after a spring storm. Bruno took the photo while strolling Oxford in May with his partner Jessica Clark, an assistant professor with Brock University's department of history.

"They were impressed with the composition and the lighting," says Bruno. "Many of the comments from the judges (said) it looked somewhat like a painting. That's what made it stand out despite it not being

a photo of any real famous building."

Winners were announced Sept. 10. It was especially surprising for Bruno, who uses his camera mainly to take pictures for his portrait artwork. But the Oxford shot was just different and artsy enough to stand out.

"I'm very humbled and flattered by it," he says. "Winning something like this reinforces the self-taught aspect of it, and encourages that."

The winner and runners-up are all on display at the Ashmolean cafe until the end of the month.

Just knowing his work is on display at such a renowned building is a thrill for Bruno. The Ashmolean was established in 1677 as the world's first university museum. Among its collection are drawings by Michelangelo and Leonardo da Vinci and paintings by Picasso, Cezanne and Manet.

"The idea of your photo hanging in one of the oldest museums in the world is pretty keen," he says. "That's the most important part of it. I'm not too dismayed by being so far away."

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MUSIC

Busking at 3, Niagara teen chases dream

JOHN LAW
Postmedia Network

At 17, you might think Chloe Rabideau is a newcomer to the music scene. But if you frequented Port Dalhousie a decade or so ago, you were already seeing her perform.

Starting at age three, Rabideau would join her brother to entertain crowds near the pier (don't worry, their mom was always nearby). He would juggle, she would sing, and they quickly learned how to keep an audience engaged.

"I have a big family, so entertainment and entertaining was always a part of my life," she says. "When you're young you're not self-conscious at all, you don't think about what other people are thinking, you just do it and don't care."

"(My mom) pretended to be like a passerby, going, 'Guys come over here, there's this little girl singing!' I had a repertoire of about three or four songs and I'd just keep singing them."

She quit busking at age nine, but she was hardly done singing.

The St. Catharines teen released her debut EP last week with a portion of CD sales going to the Niagara chapter of Autism Ontario.

Rabideau's choice was clear after graduating Laura Secord Secondary School earlier this year — music before college. At least for now.

"(You realize) when you come into high school that a lot of other people are doing this," she says. "A lot of young girls who have the same dream as me. But nothing has ever been so detrimental to my dream that I've ever given up. I've always known that this is what I'm going to do."

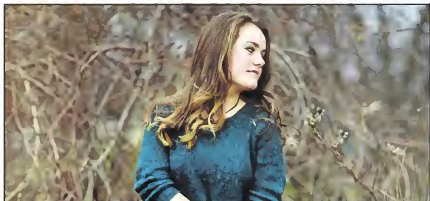
Now she has the tall task of setting herself apart. She'll start with an upcoming trip to Europe, where she plans to play clubs and build her social media profile. From there, she hopes the five polished pop songs on her EP do the rest of the job.

"This is all I do, day and night," she says. "I have an amazing group of musician friends and family who

are always there to collaborate ideas with, so it's more than just me.

"Obviously, here and there people can say stuff to you, and it's a shot to your dreams and confidence," she adds. "But there's nothing else I'd rather do with my life and I'm not about to just give that up and not try as hard as I can."

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St. Catharines teen Chloe Rabideau releases her debut EP tonight, and pitches in for Autism Ontario.



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LOCAL NEWS

■ ACCOLADES

Newcomers win big at Niagara Music Awards

JOHN LAW

Postmedia Network

Niagara's music scene endured a wet and windy night to throw itself a party a week ago Tuesday.

Rain and a late September chill couldn't deny the eighth annual Niagara Music Awards, held outdoors at Taps Brewery in downtown Niagara Falls. Rockers, folkies and head-bangers alike gathered to celebrate a local music scene that left co-organizer Todd Brown in awe.

"We're spoiled," he said. "I can't listen to anything else. I could just sit and listen to Niagara music all day long. It really is that great."

And it's growing. Brown said more than 40 new artists submitted songs for this year's awards, some getting multiple nominations.

One of them was St. Catharines trio Odds & Ends who won three awards, including for original group of the year. The folk rock group had seven nominations, making one of the biggest first impressions ever at the show.

"It's amazing. I can't even understand how this happened," said singer Ariella Aburto. "We're going to go



Steve Goldberger accepts an award at last week's Niagara Music Awards, held at Taps Brewery in Niagara Falls.

NIKE DIMATTIA/POSTMEDIA NETWORK

to my house and celebrate as a band."

St. Catharines singer Sammi Morelli, another first-time nominee, was stunned to take home the award for female vocalist of the year.

"I'm so flabbergasted right now," she said.

The show got off to a mellow start with workhorse Niagara Falls singer Rod Standish, but got plenty

rowdy later with performances by Crutch, Ladee Lixx and Under the Red.

"It's a big night for us as a band," said Under the Red singer Lacey Lennon, whose band formed a year ago.

But with all the newcomers were plenty of familiar faces, including Niagara-on-the-Lake's Steve Goldberger who led the pack with eight nominations (winning three) and previ-

ous winners Crutch, who took home the award for rock artist of the year.

Show co-organizer Erin Visentin said the night "is like a reunion" for many in the scene. She believes the show has prompted more artists "to get out there and do it" since forming in 2008.

JJ Sharp, whose band Road Waves won two awards, told the crowd

WINNERS OF THE 8TH ANNUAL NIAGARA MUSIC AWARDS

Album of the Year: Glass

Apple Bonzai

Adult Contemporary Artist:

Jamie Derek Moore

Country Artist: Steve

Goldberger

Engineer of the Year: Glass

Apple Bonzai

Female Vocalist: Sammi

Morelli

Male Vocalist: Josh Mills

Folk Artist: Odds & Ends

Heavy Metal Artist:

Blindside Incentive

Hip Hop Artist: Jae Ari

Instrumental Artist: Zach

Preston

Jazz Artist: Road Waves

New Artist: Josh Mills

New Group: Road Waves

Original Group: Odds & Ends

Original Song: Bryan

Sorensen

Producer of the Year: Steve

Goldberger

Progressive Rock: Left in

Line

Promoter of the Year: Eric

Dickson (Indoor Shoes)

Rising Star: Odds & Ends

Rock Artist: Crutch

Songwriter of the Year:

Steve Goldberger

Venue: Taps (Niagara Falls)

Video of the Year: Visca

World Music: Mudmen

Unsung Hero (community

recognition): Bunnie

Brandt, Darrell Spilchuck,

Eric Conlon, Kyle Whittaker,

John Navarill

"we put a lot of energy out there, and to receive it back is awesome."

About 200 people attended the show, which Brown hopes to bring back to Taps next year.

"It would be hard to move," he said, praising Taps owner Eric Martin for giving the show a home

after it hit a rough patch two years ago. "But we hope in the next couple of years we have to move because it's so big."

"The Meridian Centre, the convention centre, that would be fine. That's our two-year goal."

john.law@sunmedia.ca

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THE TRIBUNE

Remembrance Day feature

Wednesday, November 11th

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The veteran profile will include their photo, name and the service they were a member of. Please note that veterans profiled in last year's section **MUST** be re-ordered for inclusion in this year's section. Veterans from last year's section may simply call 905 732 2414 ext 503283 or email trevor.beattie@sunmedia.ca



We ask that readers submit a photo with name and the service they were a member of. Please drop off or email information to: The Tribune, 228 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 5P5. Hours: Mon - Fri 9am - 1pm. Email your photo and information to: trevor.beattie@sunmedia.ca. Deadline for submissions is Monday, October 19th, 2015.



William (Bert) Doms

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